

## LOSS OF LIFE 250 IN DAYTON

WILL PROBABLY NOT EXCEED  
THAT NUMBER, SAYS SECRE-  
TARY OF WAR GARRISON.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY UNDER MARTIAL LAW

Now Fighting Possible Epidemic—  
Every Effort Being Made to Stem  
Tide of Disease in Flood-Stricken  
City—Military and Sanitary Districts  
Are Outlined and the Guardsmen  
Are Instructed in Their Duties—Aid  
is Plentiful—City Being Cleaned Up.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.  
Dayton.—White-Dayton is searching  
for its dead and opening paths into its  
isolated flood districts, the Federal  
Government has stepped in to protect  
the lives of the survivors who escaped  
the onslaught of the greatest deluge  
with which recorded history credits  
Ohio. All of Montgomery county is  
under martial law.

The Gem City's greatest problem,  
that of health preservation, is in the  
hands of Uncle Sam. A Federal Sanitary  
Commission, headed by Dr. Willie  
of the Marine Corps; Secretary Mc-  
Campbell, of the State Board of  
Health, and Major Thomas L. Rhodes,  
aide to President Wilson, has been  
named by Secretary of War Garrison.  
A thorough system of sanitation has  
been inaugurated in an effort to pre-  
vent spread of contagion. This men-  
ace hangs over the stricken city as  
the heaviest cloud on the horizon.

Under the guidance of the United  
States troops, who are in full charge  
of not only the city, but the county  
as well, and John H. Patterson, the  
work of searching for bodies, relieving  
the suffering and clearing away the  
debris left by the water moved along  
rapidly.

As the rescue parties are able to  
gain more access to the flooded and  
wrecked section of the city the finding  
of bodies increases. Work is stopped  
only long enough to place a body in a  
coffin and rush it away to one of the  
morgues, where frantic mobs may be  
seen fighting to get inside, in an effort  
to get a look at the dead and, perhaps,  
identify a relative or friend. Many of  
the bodies are mangled beyond recogni-  
tion and the clothes are missing,  
which leaves no clue for identification.

#### What Must Be Done.

Here is the problem presented to  
Dayton, as summarized by George F.  
Burba, secretary of Gov. Cox, and re-  
presenting the latter here:

Forty thousand persons must be fed,  
clothed and housed for a week more.  
Twenty thousand persons must be  
cared for indefinitely. These are per-  
sons who lost their all when their  
household goods were swept away.  
They must be provided with a few  
necessaries household articles, such as  
bedding, pots and pans, stoves and a  
few dollars. A half million dollars  
could be used in this way by the Re-  
lief Committee.

Fifteen thousand houses and busi-  
ness buildings must be rehabilitated.  
Two thousand houses and other struc-  
tures, or what remains of them, must  
be pulled down. Thousands of tons  
of debris must be removed.

#### What Has Been Done.

Following are some of the accom-  
plishments since the flood broke over  
the city:

The water works pumping station is  
in operation, but the distribution of  
water is greatly retarded by open  
pipes in wrecked houses.

The main sanitary sewer is in op-  
eration, although many of the laterals  
leading from houses are clogged with  
mud or backed-up water.

The flood sewers, separate from the  
sanitary, are in operation. These  
sewers carry off the rainfall, etc., from  
the gutters, and are particularly need-  
ed now to remove the water being  
pumped from basements.

State reports from North Dayton  
showed that many of the foreign popu-  
lation of this suburb are missing. One  
block of houses on Keefer street in  
this suburb was completely twisted  
out of shape. The Keefer street  
houses were inhabited by Hungarians  
and Roumanians, and it is feared that  
a great many have perished.

People arriving from the south  
brought reports that many bodies lined  
the banks of the Great Miami river  
below Hamilton. It is stated that this  
is particularly true north of Venice, in  
Butler county.

#### Lakes Fill the City.

With cellars full of stagnant water,  
low residential districts converted into  
lakes by remnants of the receding  
flood, and streets and homes clogged  
with refuse, the situation from health  
standpoints requires immediate action.

Heroic effort is being made to re-  
move the hundreds of dead horses  
from streets and alleys and yards. One  
carcass was taken from the Fourth  
National Bank building, into which it  
had been washed.

Looting Reduced to Minimum.  
Looting has been reduced to a mini-  
mum. The military curfew rule is pre-  
venting robbery, that at first threat-  
ened to become rife.

Tours of the worst stricken districts,  
including North Dayton, bring down  
estimates of the death toll to not more  
than 500. Secretary Garrison placed  
this number as the maximum, and it is  
possible 250 will cover the casualties.



GENETRAL VIEW OF THE FLOOD AT DAYTON—WATER IS UP TO THE SECOND STORY OF RESIDENCES—PHOTO TAKEN FROM ROOF OF DAYTON CASH REGISTER PL. T.

It will be weeks before the list of the  
missing is completed and checked. Al-  
though recovery from such a blow as  
was dealt the Gem City is not a matter  
of hours or days, Dayton is viewing its  
plight in an optimistic and more hope-  
ful mood.

#### Large Fund Available.

Practically unlimited supplies, with  
almost perfect systems of distribution,  
are bringing comfort to the host of  
homeless. Funds are available for put-  
ting to work great gangs of laborers.  
Already piles of refuse are being car-  
ried from the choked streets. Con-  
fusion, that necessarily attended first  
efforts to reach all the needy, is pass-  
ing away as committees take charge  
of various branches of relief work.

A hopeful sign is the operation of a  
street car line. This, however, is  
merely a fictitious sign of recupera-  
tion, for it will be months before the  
traction system is replaced. Splashing  
and plowing through water six inches  
deep and mud a foot thick, sturdy  
horses and high-power automobiles  
were able to open communication with  
Dayton View.

#### Few Bodies Found.

Glad news greeted the first to enter  
the suburb, which had been isolated  
from the balance of Dayton since the  
deluge swept down. Instead of find-  
ing the banks of the Miami, which  
again are visible, strewn with bodies,  
careful searchers found comparatively  
few fatalities. This fact is not due to  
any mercy shown by the flood in its  
furious rush down the Miami valley.  
From the high mound that tops Day-  
ton View can be seen vistas that tell  
of the limitless force that swept the  
stricken districts.

Entrance into Dayton View came  
not a moment too soon. Residents of  
the pretty suburb were suffering from  
hunger and thirst, but even more ter-  
rible was the anxiety of those impris-  
oned in their community, without word  
from relatives in other and less fortu-  
nate portions of the city.

The heartrending scenes that accom-  
panied the all-night vigil of the sub-  
urbanites as they watched flames eat-  
ing their way through the business  
district of Dayton proper were de-  
scribed by J. Lane Reed, one of the  
first to rush into the city to inquire  
about relatives.

With marine glasses, he stood on a  
hill in Dayton View and tried to dis-  
tinguish what portions of the Gem  
City were burning.

#### Women in Anguish.

Around him stood hundreds of  
women, wringing their hands in an-  
guish. Reed was besieged by every  
sufferer. He could not tell them what  
was burning. A haze hung over the  
valley, and the angry glow from the  
burning section was magnified.

"The entire city is afire," became  
the cry, and women wailed as over  
their dead. Absolutely no hope was  
felt by the isolated village. Families  
were practically in mourning for three  
days.

The residents of the suburb are giv-  
ing shelter and food to hundreds of  
refugees brought from Riverdale.

Longfellow school is housing nearly  
a thousand persons. A steady stream  
of ambulances were bringing sick and  
injured to the school, which is now an  
emergency hospital and shelter sta-  
tion.

No deaths were reported at the  
school. The passageway into the com-  
paratively happy suburb is anything  
but a promise of the sights to follow.  
As the stream of outpouring vehicles  
leave the topsy-turvy factory and busi-  
ness district and enters the fashio-  
nable residence portion that occupies a  
square mile or more on both sides of  
Monument avenue, it passes through  
lanes skirted by jagged mountains of  
debris. The piles once were residences  
that made the section the aristocratic  
neighborhood of the city.

#### Homes Are Shattered.

Blocks of shattered houses line Monu-  
ment avenue from its junction with

### PRESIDENT ASKED FOR NATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

Washington.—President Wilson  
promptly issued the following ap-  
peal to the nation to help the suf-  
ferers in the Ohio and Indiana  
floods:

"The terrible floods in Ohio and  
Indiana have assumed the propor-  
tions of a national calamity. The  
loss of life and the infinite suffer-  
ing involved prompt me to issue an  
earnest appeal to all who are able,  
in however small way, to assist the  
labors of the American Red Cross  
to send contributions at once to the  
Red Cross at Washington or to local  
treasurers of the society. We  
should make this a common cause.  
The needs of those upon whom this  
sudden and overwhelming disaster  
has come should quicken everyone's  
sympathy and compassion to  
give immediate aid to those  
who are laboring to rescue and re-  
lieve. "WOODROW WILSON."

Main street to Dayton View bridge.  
Massive stone pillars crashed through  
walls, porches have been set awry or  
carried away bodily, and over all is  
mud that resists all efforts to enter  
the desolated homes.

Pitiful pictures are seen every mo-  
ment as the rescuers journey through  
the district. Families returning to the  
homes from which they fled find tum-  
bled-down shacks or mere ruins.

The experience of the Monument  
avenue residents was that of all the  
wealthy Daytonians who populated  
Harlem and intersecting streets in this  
district. The utmost power of nature  
seems to have vented itself within the  
confines of the section. It is still a  
question that may receive grim answer  
whether or not there are dead or living  
persons behind the piles of debris that  
block entrances to homes in the sec-  
tion between Main and Miami River  
along Monument avenue. It will take  
days to penetrate the tangled mases.

The force that set at naught the handi-  
work of man may be realized by those  
who see a fifty-foot beam of wood,  
probably weighing 250 pounds, rammed  
into the side of a brick dwelling on  
Monument, near Second street.

#### Two-Story House Gone.

After this herculean effort, the grasp  
of the flood twisted the great catapult  
about, and it became wedged in the  
window of another house across a  
vacant lot. The lot was not vacant  
until after the first rush of waters  
came. The ground was the site of a  
two-story residence. Occupants of the  
house rammed by the beam say they  
escaped to neighbors by crawling over  
the support provided by nature's  
wealth and entering the adjacent  
structure. In the vicinity of Monu-  
ment street alone, the loss of property  
is estimated at hundreds of thousands.

Three-fourths of Riverdale are inun-  
dated. This territory is lower than  
Dayton View, and received the brunt  
of the outward sweep of the Miami.  
Streets in this suburb presented  
ghastly scenes of destruction.

An unusual situation faces Riverdale  
inhabitants. The territory for a long  
distance near the Miami had is below  
the levee that broke. With the sub-  
siding of the flood, the water of the  
river, great lakes are left in Riverdale  
behind the levee that still stands. This  
will have to be pumped out immedi-  
ately as a sanitary and health precaution.

### COX PROCLAIMS HOLIDAY IN FLOODED DISTRICTS.

Columbus, O.—Gov. Cox has is-  
sued a proclamation declaring a  
holiday in all districts flooded in  
Ohio for the next 10 days. This  
was done to protect negotiable pa-  
per that might be subject to pre-  
sentation.

## LAWRENCEBURG LEVEE BREAKS

UNDER SWIRLING CURRENTS AND  
FLOOD WATERS OF OHIO  
RIVER SWEEPS CITY.

### 65 FEET DEEP IN SECTIONS

Residents Gather on Hilltops and See  
Homes and Business Houses Inun-  
dated—Property Damage Will Be  
Very Large—Aurora Under Water.

Lawrenceburg, Ind.—With a roar that  
could be heard for miles around, more  
than 50 feet of the levee broke and the  
entire city and surrounding country  
was under from 25 to 65 feet of water.  
Every resident of the city had fled to  
the hills when the warning came sev-  
eral days ago. It is believed that no  
lives were lost, but it is impossible to  
estimate the monetary loss.

Thousands of persons, standing on  
the hilltops several miles away, saw  
the large cement levee give way, and  
each turned his eyes to the portion of  
the city in which his home was lo-  
cated as the waters rushed over the  
deserted city. The break had been  
expected, and everything that could  
be taken from the homes and business  
houses were removed.

Every home and business house in  
the city is covered with water, with  
the exception of those on High street.  
At the highest place the water stands  
25 feet deep, and in the remainder of  
the business section and in the resi-  
dence sections the water is 65 feet  
deep. The Big Four railroad tracks,  
running along the top of the levee,  
have been washed away.

The levee surrounds the city, the  
Ohio river running on the south and  
the Miami a few miles east. Newtown  
is situated on the hills west of the  
city and Greendale is north of that  
point.

#### Factories Are Under Water.

Among the heavy losers are the  
Ohio Valley Cofin Co., the James &  
Meyer Carriage Co., the Lawrenceburg  
roller mills, the largest flour mills in  
Indiana and one of the largest in the  
country; the George H. Bishop & Co.  
saw works, the Batesville Veneer Co.,  
the Lawrenceburg Lumber Co. and  
James Walsh & Co. The Big Four and  
B. & O. railroad depots also are under  
water.

About 5,000 persons had gathered at  
Greendale, a suburb of Lawrenceburg,  
and from that place they watched the  
inundation of their homes. Scores of  
persons refused to leave, saying that  
there was no danger, but as the water  
nearly the top of the levee all hopes  
of remaining in their homes vanished,  
and they sought refuge with their  
friends and neighbors. Greendale is  
a small town, but every house has  
been thrown open and every one of  
the homeless persons are being cared  
for. The supply of food and drinking  
water at Greendale, where most of the  
refugees have sought shelter, is short,  
and 5,000 persons are facing starva-  
tion.

It is impossible to reach Cincinnati  
on account of the high water, and un-  
less provisions are brought in from  
Indiana cities none can reach the  
homeless thousands. All provisions at  
Lawrenceburg were taken to Greendale,  
but these soon were exhausted. The  
water supply is even shorter than the  
food, and a committee has been or-  
ganized to take care of what there is  
and see that each person is given an  
equal share and that none is wasted.  
The roofs of about 60 houses that  
could be seen plainly has disappeared,  
indicating that the houses have col-  
lapsed. Others have moved from one

section of the city to another. It is  
expected by river men that it will take  
several days for the water to leave the  
city. The Nippenburg carriage plant,  
a small building, burned. The blazing  
timbers floated away. Loss, \$1,500.

#### Men Prevent Panic.

The sights here were pitiful. Aged  
men and women, scarcely able to walk,  
were compelled to leave their homes,  
knowing that probably everything  
they owned and had saved during  
their lives would be washed away.

Every effort has been exerted dur-  
ing the last several days to prevent  
a break or overflow of the levee.  
Breastworks had been thrown up on  
top of the levee to increase its height  
and debris was piled against it in an  
attempt to strengthen the lower por-  
tions. Several hundred men went to  
work early on the levee, and even the  
women used the picks and shovels.  
The Dearborn county fair grounds was  
the first place affected by the rush of  
the water. All houses on the grounds  
have been washed away.

Aurora, two miles from here, is un-  
der water, and all business has been  
suspended there.

## \$100,000 FUND

FOR FLOOD RELIEF HAS BEEN  
RAISED IN CINCINNATI.

No More Money Required—U. S. Army  
Officers Have Taken Charge of Re-  
lief Work.

Cincinnati, O.—When told that the  
list of contributions for the relief of  
the flood sufferers will exceed \$100,000,  
Mayor Hunt informed the Citizens'  
Committee that more money will not  
be needed, and that there will also be  
no further need of provisions, clothing  
and other supplies. The Mayor sug-  
gested that a statement to this effect  
be issued, and that the public be  
thanked for their generous response to  
the appeals of the committee.

The Citizens' General Flood Relief  
Committee issued the following state-  
ment:

"The Finance Committee of the Cit-  
izens' Flood Relief Committee are  
pleased to be able to state that the  
response to the call for help is not  
needed, at least for the present. This  
applies not only to money, but also to  
clothes and provisions.

"This action was decided upon at a  
meeting held at the office of Mayor  
Henry T. Hunt. We take this occa-  
sion to extend our heartfelt thanks to  
those who made it possible for us to  
respond to the cry for help.

"Charles A. Hinsch, President Busi-  
ness Men's Club.

"Walter A. Draper, President Chamber  
of Commerce.

"Walter A. Knight, President Feder-  
ated Improvement Association."

#### To Aid River Towns.

During the day Gov. Cox requested  
Mayor Hunt to provide for the needs  
of Ripley and New Richmond, O.,  
whose officials had appealed for aid.  
The request was referred to Major  
Logan, of the Government's Relief Bu-  
reau, at the City Hall, who started a  
boat for Ohio river points east of Cin-  
cinnati with provisions and clothing.  
The boat was in charge of an army  
officer, who was accompanied by Irvin  
Krohn, of the Citizens' Relief Com-  
mittee.

### HOUSES WRECKED AT OSBORN.

Xenia, O.—Osborn, O., a few miles  
south of Dayton, is in desperate  
straits. Several lives are said to have  
been lost. Many of the business  
houses are inundated and scores of  
homes are reported to have been  
wrecked. Wires are down and the  
city is cut off from the rest of the  
world.

## COLUMBUS TOLL

FLOOD VICTIMS IDENTIFIED AT  
IMPROVED MORGUES AT  
STATE CAPITOL.

Rivers Have Resumed Their Normal  
Channels and Recovery of Bodies  
Is Nearly Complete—Bridges Are  
Gone.

Columbus, O.—With 50 victims of  
the flood identified and the bodies of  
additional scores lying in the im-  
proved morgues, Columbus is pushing  
with renewed energy the work of re-  
covering victims of the flood, com-  
pleting the rescue work and restoring  
normal conditions. The Scioto river  
is back in its normal channel, while  
a steady sun is drying out water-soak-  
ed houses and making them fit for hu-  
man habitation.

Residents of the stricken sections  
are moving back. Voluntary relief  
workers are nearly tired out.

A new spot, in which there was  
keen suffering, has been discovered.  
Along the course of the Olentangy, in  
the north side, houses were wrecked.  
Many people were marooned, and be-  
cause attention has been centered on  
the west side little heed was given.  
Medical aid, food and supplies will pre-  
vent any additional losses. Work of  
identification was hampered by the  
anxious crowds.

From every part of the flood dis-  
trict searching parties found bodies.  
All of these were lodged in the tem-  
porary morgue, and the greater part of  
them had been identified by nightfall.

Scores of big transfer wagons trav-  
ersed the inundated streets of the  
flood district, carrying relief to the  
hundreds marooned in the upper sto-  
ries of houses. Many of those mar-  
ooned refused to leave their houses,  
declaring that the worst was over and  
that they wished to stay with their  
property. The military authorities al-  
lowed hundreds to return to their  
homes in the flooded area to make re-  
pairs and clean up their houses. The  
health authorities took charge of the  
cleaning-up process.

#### Searching the Ruins.

Parties of searchers were organized  
to penetrate the great drifts of debris  
extending along the flooded river as  
fast as the water goes down, in the  
search for bodies.

While householders were busy clean-  
ing the wreckage from their homes,  
while militiamen cleared the principal  
streets from the dead bodies of ani-  
mals and debris, and while relief com-  
mittees continued the care of the  
homeless, plans were set afoot for the  
prevention of a similar catastrophe.

#### Divert River Course.

Various plans were suggested, but  
those which met with the greatest ap-  
proval provided for diverting the Sci-  
oto river through the city in two differ-  
ent riverbeds and for the building of  
immense concrete retaining levees  
along the banks of the present river-  
bed. A mass meeting of citizens was  
held at Memorial hall, and there latest  
reports were read and future condi-  
tions discussed.

### BRIDGES WASHED OUT IN CENTRAL KENTUCKY.

Whitesburg, Ky.—Eastern Ken-  
tucky mountain streams have been  
the highest in their history, in fact,  
the whole of the mountains was  
storm-swept, completely putting out  
of commission all telegraph and  
telephone lines, delaying mails, demor-  
alizing train service on all railroads for  
an indefinite time. A large bridge on  
the Lexington & Eastern railroad was  
washed out. It is said traffic will not  
be resumed within less than ten days.